procured by the Government agencies for which they will be entitled for storage charges. They will also be encouraged for the development of infrastructure for the integrated bulk handling storage and transportation of foodgrains.

(c) The interest of the consumers would be safeguarded so far as the quality of foodgrains is concerned. The foodgrains would be stored in scientific manner and all quality control measures would be adopted during storage and handling of foodgrains.

(d) Does not arise.

Leasing out godowns of FCI

2065. SHRI PARMESHWAR KUMAR AGARWALLA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are considering a proposal of leasing out godowns of FCI;

(b) if so, what are the details of the proposal; and

(c) by when the decision is likely to be taken;

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SRIRAM CHAUHAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Short term loans to sugar mills

2066. SHRI LAJPAT RAI: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that short term loans to the sugar mills for cane development was introduced in the year 1997;

(b) whether there were any pre-conditions for sanction/ disbursement of such loans;

(c) how long did this scheme remain operative and how many sugar mills were provided these loans;